

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.

Application No.: Div. of 09/360,520

Group Art Unit:

Filed: November 26, 2003

Examiner:

For: MULTIFUNCTION MACHINE, SERVER, MULTIFUNCTION MACHINE/SERVER
SYSTEM AND PROGRAM RECORDING MEDIUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. ☒ Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. ☐ Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. ☐ An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. ☐ English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. ☒ Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
- 1f. ☒ List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. ☒ List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b):

(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)

- 2a. ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under § 1.53(d);
- 2b. ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d. ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

3. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND

(Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)

- 3a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
3b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is:
☐ enclosed.
☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

4. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND

- 4a. ☐ The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
4b. ☐ The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is:
☐ enclosed.
☐ to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

5. ☐ Statement under § 1.97(e) (*applicable if Item 3a or Item 4a is checked*)

(Check either Item 5a or 5b)

- 5a. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
5b. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

6. ☒ This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).

(Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)

- 6a. ☒ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. 09/100,320 filed on June 19, 1998 and application Serial No. 09/360,520 filed on July 23, 1999, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
6b. ☐ Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. ___, filed on ___, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

7. ☐ This is a continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

(Check either Item 7a or 7b)

- 7a. ☐ The Issue Fee has not been paid.
7b. ☐ A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR § 1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee, is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.53(d)(1)(ii) or 37 CFR 1.114(a), respectively.

8. ☐ This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

(Check either Item 8a or 8b)

- 8a. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on _____. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on _____.
8b. ☐ This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, mailed _____.

9. ☐ In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:

(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)

- 9a. ☐ satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP § 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, 8th Ed.)
9b. ☐ set forth in the application.
9c. ☐ satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
9d. ☐ enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.


10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Dated: Nov. 26, 2003
1201 New York Ave., N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
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By: 
Gene M. Garner II
Registration No. 34,172

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1734.1001CIPD	APPLICATION NO. Div. of 09/360,520
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.	
		FILING DATE November 25, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	6,353,482	03/2002	ABE et al.			
	AB	6,330,070	12/2001	TOYODA et al.			
	AC	6,130,757	10/2000	YOSHIDA et al.			
	AD	6,069,707	05/2000	PEKELMAN			
	AE	6,031,975	02/2000	IJIMA			
	AF	5,995,240	11/1999	SATO			
	AG	5,933,584	08/1999	MANIWA			
	AH	5,627,658	05/1997	CONNORS et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AI	05-328098	12/10/93	JAPAN			Abst.	
	AJ	DE 29 06 073	08/30/79	GERMANY				XX
	AK	GB 2015304 A	09/05/89	UK				
	AL							

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

							TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AM							

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 1734.1001CIPD	APPLICATION NO: Div. of 09/360,520
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.	
		FILING DATE November 26, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT: To be Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	BA	5,987,225	11/1999	OKANO			
	BB	5,978,522	11/1999	ISHII et al.			
	BC	5,982,994	11/1999	MORI et al.			
	BD	5,859,711	01/1999	BARRY et al.			
	BE	5,669,040	09/1997	HISATAKE			
	BF	5,483,589	01/1996	ISHIDA et al.			
	BG	5,408,618	04/1995	AHO et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	BH							
	BI							
	BJ							
	BK							
	BL							

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	BM	
	BN	
	BO	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

ATTACHMENT 1(e)

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1734.1001CIPD	Div. of 09/360,520
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	November 25, 2003	2622

UK Patent Application No. GB 2015304 A corresponds to DE-OS 29 06 073 (disclosed in Form PTO 1449 as Reference - AJ)

ATTACHMENT 1(f)

LIST OF COPENDING APPLICATIONS	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1734.1001CIPD	Div. of 09/360,520
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	November 25, 2003	

The following, prior-filed, copending U.S. patent application(s) is/are listed in accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, so that the Examiner may consider same should he deem any thereof to be material to examination of the subject application. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the identified copending application(s) is provided.

It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge his consideration of application(s) below-listed by initialing same in the space provided adjacent each such application and that the Examiner sign and date this form at the bottom thereof to confirm such consideration having been given.

This submission in no way represents an admission that any of the information listed herein constitutes prior art with respect to the subject application and unless and until such prior art status is established, this submission is not a request that the information presented herein be printed on the face of any patent issuing from the subject application in which this information is being filed.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		U.S. SERIAL NO.	FILING DATE	NAME	ASSIGNEE
	1	09/360,520	July 23, 1999	Sumitake Kobayashi et al.	FUJITSU LIMITED
	2				
	3				
	4				
	5				
	6				
	7				
	8				

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

ATTACHMENT 1(g)

LIST OF ADDITIONAL SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1734.1001CIPD	Div. of 09/360,520
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
	November 25, 2003	

The following document(s) is/are listed in accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, so that the Examiner may consider same should he deem any thereof to be material to examination of the subject application. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of any identified copending application(s) is provided.

It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge his consideration of document(s) below-listed by initialing same in the space provided adjacent each such application and that the Examiner sign and date this form at the bottom thereof to confirm such consideration having been given.

This submission in no way represents an admission that any of the information listed herein constitutes prior art with respect to the subject application and unless and until such prior art status is established, this submission is not a request that the information presented herein be printed on the face of any patent issuing from the subject application in which this information is being filed.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	6,434,343	08/13/02	Sumitake KOBAYASHI et al.			06/19/98
	AB						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AC							
	AD							

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

							TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AE	English Translation of Office Action mailed by German Patent Office September 25, 2003.					XX	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	